

AMENDED PARAGRAPHS FOR REPLACEMENT IN THE SPECIFICATION

The following pages provide the amended paragraphs for the specification with the amendments marked with deleted material in [brackets] and new material underlined to show the changes made.

--Figure 10, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled Figure 10A and 10B, illustrates a process for generating a wirelength estimate according to a bounding-box method of the invention.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 8-9 in the specification with the following amended paragraph.

--Figure 12, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled Figure 12A and 12B, illustrates a process for generating a wirelength estimate by constructing MST's that include horizontal, vertical, and 45° edges.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 12-13 in the specification with the following amended paragraph.

--Figure 14, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled Figure 14A and 14B, illustrates a process for generating a wirelength estimate by constructing Steiner trees with 45° diagonal edges.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, lines 3-4 in the specification with the following amended paragraph.

--Figure 19, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled Figure 19A and 19B, illustrates a process that generates a congestion cost estimate, and partitions a set of nets, about a cut line.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, line 6 in the specification with the following

amended paragraph.

--**Figure 23**, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled **Figure 23A and 23B**, illustrates one example of a local optimization process.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, line 7 in the specification with the following amended paragraph.

--**Figure 24**, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled **Figure 24A and 24B**, illustrates one example of a simulated annealing process.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, line 8 in the specification with the following amended paragraph.

--**Figure 25**, which is presented on two separate sheets labeled **Figure 25A and 25B**, illustrates one example of a KLFM process.--